

signified their willingness to accept the proposed compromise was so small, that it was not deemed advisable to incur the expense of having new bonds prepared, and of levying a special tax, upon all the taxable property of the State, for the purpose of paying the interest on such a small amount. It is very important that we should compromise, commute and settle the State debt; so that our financial condition may be the better known both at home and abroad, and our public credit again established upon a sound basis.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

I respectfully recommend to your careful consideration the interesting Report of D. A. Jenkins, Public Treasurer.

It becomes my duty to say that Treasurer Jenkins has voluntarily retired from the office he has filled with consummate skill and ability for more than eight years past. He has managed the financial affairs of the State honestly and safely through all the difficulties and embarrassments by which he has often been surrounded. He has been an honest and faithful public officer, and in retiring to private life, he leaves a record of which he may well be proud.

AUDITOR'S DEPARTMENT.

The Auditor's Reports show the receipts and disbursements at the Public Treasury for the two fiscal years ending September 30, 1876, and I respectfully invite your attention to the same.

The Auditor's Office is one of the most important offices in the State, and I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the careful and able manner in which the duties of that office have been discharged.

PENITENTIARY.

I respectfully invite your attention to the biennial Report